GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4539
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2001
VIOLENCE IN WEST BENGAL
THAAWAR CHAND GEHLOT

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons killed in various incidents of violence that occurred in West Bengal during the years 1999 and 2000;

(b) the number of times the Union Government have sent inquiry teams in the State;

(c) the details of the inquiries conducted by these teams;

(d) the action taken by the Government to check the violence;

(e) whether the Government propose to impose President`s rule in the State; and

(f) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (I.D. SWAMI)

(a): Information is being obtained from the State Government of West Bengal.

(b)&(c): No team of Central Government officers was sent to West Bengal by the Union Government during the years 1999 and 2000 to inquire into incidents of violence. However, the then Raksha Mantri Shri George Fernandes, who is also the Convenor of the National Democratic Alliance visited West Bengal on 08.09.2000 and submitted a report on the prevailing law and order situation.

(d): `Public Order` and `Police` are State subjects and maintenance of law and order is the primary responsibility of the State Government. However, Central Government`s concern over the political violence has been conveyed to the State Government and advisories sent to them to remain extremely vigilant and undertake abudant precautions to avoid recurrence of such incidents.

(e)&(f): There is no proposal before the Government to place the State of West Bengal under President`s Rule.